C64 THE INFINITE LOOP 128

THE NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE COMPUTER THAT DOESN'T STOP

JANUARY 2004
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BIG NEWS!!
page 4, 22

microPALOOZA

64HDD REVIEW #3



The SUPERCPU Home
ALL YOUR SUPERCPU NEEDS

VCSWEB

THE INFINITE L∞P

Editor-in-Chief Earl Williams

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Cover Taken by Contessa McCurry.

Submissions should be made to the editor by mail at P.O. Box 746, Grand Junction, CO 81502 or by e-mail to earlw@earl-ydesigns.com. Editor accepts unsolicited editorial manuscripts and photographs, original commodore-related manuscripts and programs, but cannot be responsible for their return. If submission is accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope we will make every effort to return

Continued on the back cover

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Editor-in-Chief

November 2003

2004, can you belive it? Who would've thunk! And new hardware and software on the horizon. Changes, adjustments and surprises. Mostly good. I plan on utilizing the web to keep updates available for you the subscribers and other curious onlookers. You will be getting this issue along with Decembers so I can get caught up. February is soon to be in your mailbox.

This month I have photos from the Micro-Palooza show in Portland Oregon. Since my daughter Tess lives there and is a jounalist (presently going to school & worked for the Oregonian in the photo department), I asked her to go to the show and take some photos, talk with Jeri and others. I also have photos taken by Robert Bernardo. Robert took photos with a flash and my daughter took photos without a flash; the later giving a feeling of the ambience of the event. The photos are available on my Earl-Y Designs site in The Infinite Loop directory. I'm still working on the site as we speak.

Recent News: GoDot, the venerable C64/128 graphics manipulation program, has been updated with new or improved loader and saver modules. Go to http://www.godot64.de; Arndt Dettke has released ldr.GeoPaint. The loader 'understands' GEOS filenames and retrieves clips of 320x200 from images up to 640x800 pixels. This is my 2003 Christmas gift to the Commodore Community. Happy Christmas! And GoDot's Postscript and GIF savers are now even better.

The final installment of the 64HDD review is here; unfortunately, the company (As of Monday, December 22, 2003, has ceased production of new hardware to allow... time with family. I am currently involved in discussions with others to find a new home for the 8bitdesigns.com domain name, and possibly the product designs that I have created. If and when the details are finalized, I will make an announcement to the public. - ***Michael Hunter***) *that I purchased the cable from is no longer operating.*

Happy Commodoring!!

Homestead
Free Geos, DSL, etc.

Wed, 4 Feb 2004 11:49:10 -0500 (EST)

I want to applaud Maurice for his decision to make Geos free. Greg is right that Geos is more like a demo version of Wheels. Anyone that has balked at the idea of buying Geos to get Wheels won't have any excuse now

The way this is going to work is the complete set of files needed to get GEOS up and running will be available for downloading free. The boot files will be in a format that will not require copy protection on the disk. Prior to downloading, you will choose your disk format, 1541, 1571, or 1581, so that the correct boot files will be downloaded.

All the normal applications and desk accessories will also be available such as geoWrite, geoPaint, geoSpell, text manager, photo manager, etc. Also, a decent collection of input and printer drivers will be available.

As you go through the download process, there will be instructions all along the way on how to set up your system so it will boot the first time for you. Of course, no amount of instructions can make anyone familiar with how GEOS operates. The user simply has to bear down and use it and get experienced with it. It can be frustrating for any first time user. But once someone becomes accustomed to it, it can be a joy to use, and very handy.

For some, the process of downloading all the files and setting up a boot disk and other support disks might be too much of a daunting task. For those people, GEOS 64 and GEOS 128 is still available for purchase in its original disk format complete with full documentation. The price has been drastically reduced to $25 for GEOS 64 and $25 for GEOS 128. Wheels 64 and Wheels 128 are also both reduced to $25 each. Wheels will still require 'original' GEOS boot disks in order to install the first time. It won't install from the downloadable version of GEOS.

A combination of GEOS 64 and Wheels 64 is available for $40. A combo of GEOS 128 and Wheels 128 is also $40.

Anyone who has never experienced GEOS 2.0 will be able to use the download version just fine. All the optionally available add-on apps such as geoPublish, geoFile, geoCalc, etc., will work with no problem if purchased new in their uninstalled form. Prices have been reduced on these as well. For instance, geoPublish is now available for only $25.

The download version will be available with versions of CONFIGURE to allow the use of the CMD-HD, FD, and RAMLink, as well as the 17xx series ram expansions and the geoRAM/BBGRam type expansion units.

In order to make the HD, FD, or RAMLink bootable, the user will have to purchase geoMakeBoot. The price of geoMakeBoot has been reduced to only $10.

I hope this gets some new interest going with the GEOS environment. Even today, it's a very capable way to compute.

-Maurice
<maurice@cmdrkey.com>



04 PRIUS

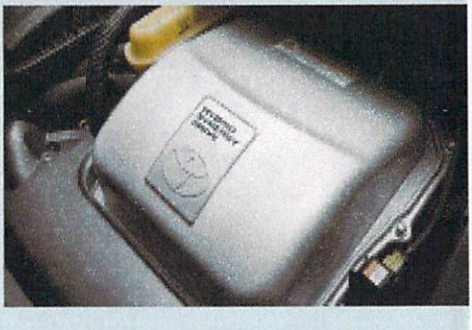
Prius shown in Millennium Silver Metallic with available Package #9

04 MODEL GRADE

Lifetime supply of fresh air with every purchase.

Start experiencing the next generation 2004 Toyota Prius with Hybrid Synergy Drive.¨ A solution with no cords attached. You could call it low emission wizardry, but it's really a new gas/electric hybrid powerplant that makes Prius more fuel-efficient and powerful. Not to mention, more planet-sensitive than ever before. What's the catch, you ask? There isn't one. With Prius, you can now make a difference without making a sacrifice. Prius has the best fuel-efficiency rating of any mid-size car, with an unheard-of combined city/highway mpg estimate of 55.1 As for performance, Prius is now even more powerful, with increased horsepower and torque. All this, and you never have to plug it in for recharging. We're not exaggerating when we say Prius will help clean our skies. It's designed to exceed the standards for a Super Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (SULEV) and has achieved an Advanced Technology Partial Zero Emission Vehicle (AT-PZEV) rating.[2] Acronyms aside, this means that Prius has the best emissions rating of any gasoline-fueled car. Then there's Prius' sleek aerodynamic profile which not only cheats the wind, but also gives the 4-door liftback its futuristic appearance and contributes to Prius' superb fuel economy. Unleash the power to move forward. The 2004 Prius.

The power to move forward.



Prius Hybrid Synergy Drive® system.

1 2004 EPA-estimated 60 city/51 highway/55 combined mpg. Actual mileage may vary.

2 AT-PZEV-rated by the California Air Resources Board. Meets Tier 2-Bin 3 Federal emissions standard. For more information please visit www.arb.ca.gov.

micro-PALOOZA Photos

Music, Games and MORE
December 2003, Portland Oregon. photos courtesy of Robert Bernardo and Contessa McCurry

Micro-Palooza brought a truly techno-buzz to downtown Portland, Oregon's Ground Kontrol arcade on Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2003. Local and out-of-town Commodore User groups gathered at the perfectly fitting retro-themed arcade to share prized Commodore computer projects along with creative computer-generated music. The night ended with snow falling quietly outside, but inside, energetic techno-music kept the crowd alive and moving.

Tess

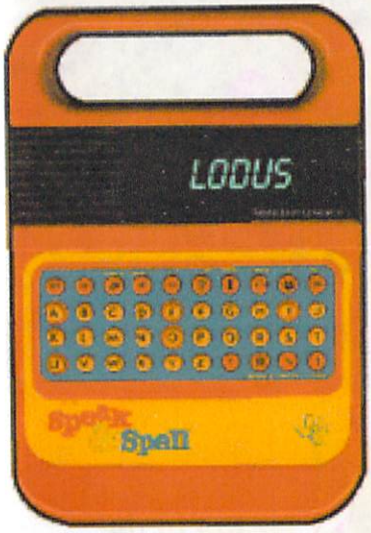
Ground Kontrol, with support from the Fresno Commodore User Group, presents

micro-PALOOZA

The Pacific Northwest's first 'chip music' concert and Commodore 64 Super Summit
Tuesday, December 30th, 2003
Computer fest: 1pm-6pm
Performances: 6pm-10pm
Admission: FREE before 4pm, $4 afterwards (re-entry with stamp)
$1 discount with proof of User Group membership

Featuring
8-BIT WEAPON aka SETH STERNBERGER
Los Angeles, CA





LODUS aka ADAM CHRONISTER
Cheney, WA - Miniature Records



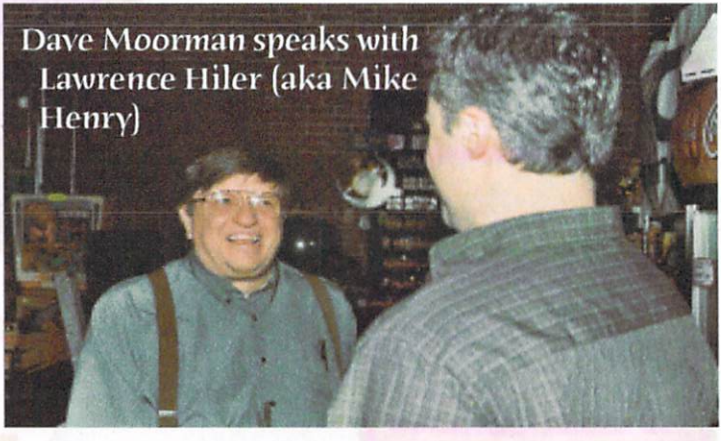
MOS-8 | gotoXY | Waxin' Wary
Eugene, OR

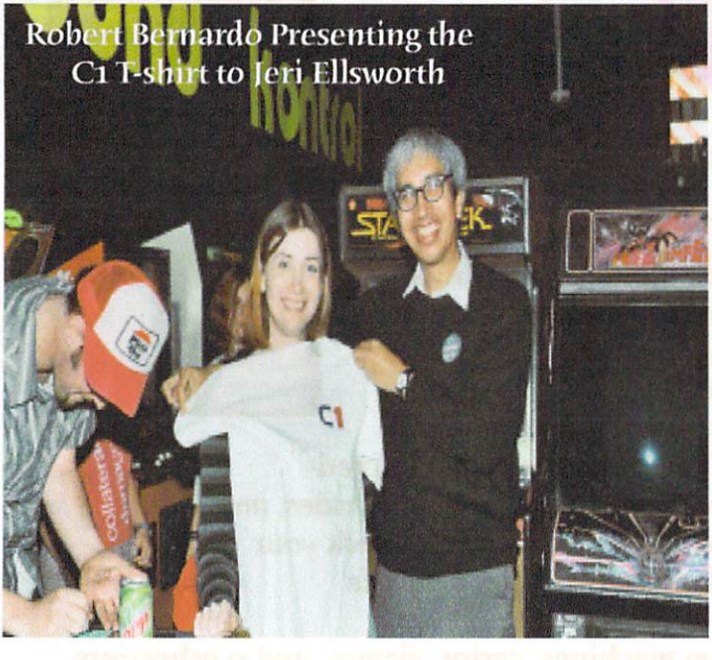
"Sternberger plays Commodore 64s against original drum loops ornamented by samples from every possible game system...Regardless of your interest in video games, the music flows like a golden arcade-flavored acid trip from your speakers; the arrangements are incredibly complex, multi-layered, syncopated thrill rides, and if they don't make you want to move, then check your pulse."-- Seth Flynn Barkan, Las Vegas City Life

With circuit-bent drum machines, casios, gizmos, and synthesizers, Adam aka LODUS creates a collage of rhythmic synthetic experimentation reminiscent of a noiser Kraftwerk.

Sharing a house full of obsolete computer and game equipment, each of these three Oregon natives creates distinct retro-futuristic audioscapes taking you back to when Game Boy and NES ruled your world.

Dave Moorman, editor of LoadSTAR Magazine
Meet the editor of the most widely read magazine dedicated to the most popular home computer of all time!


Dave Moorman speaks with Lawrence Hiler (aka Mike Henry)


Robert Bernardo Presenting the C1 T-shirt to Jeri Ellsworth

Jeri Ellsworth, creator of the CommodoreONE
Jeri's CommodoreONE project recreates the original Commodore 64 on state-of-the-art hardware, bringing modern-day features to a classic platform. She'll be on hand to demonstrate its amazing capabilities and answer your questions.

Commodore computer system Demos and Free Play
Courtesy of

* Fresno Commodore User Group
* Upper Peninsula Commodore Home Users Group
* Astoria Commodore User Group



Anthony Ramos (center), Kommander in Chief of Ground Kontrol and all the musicians

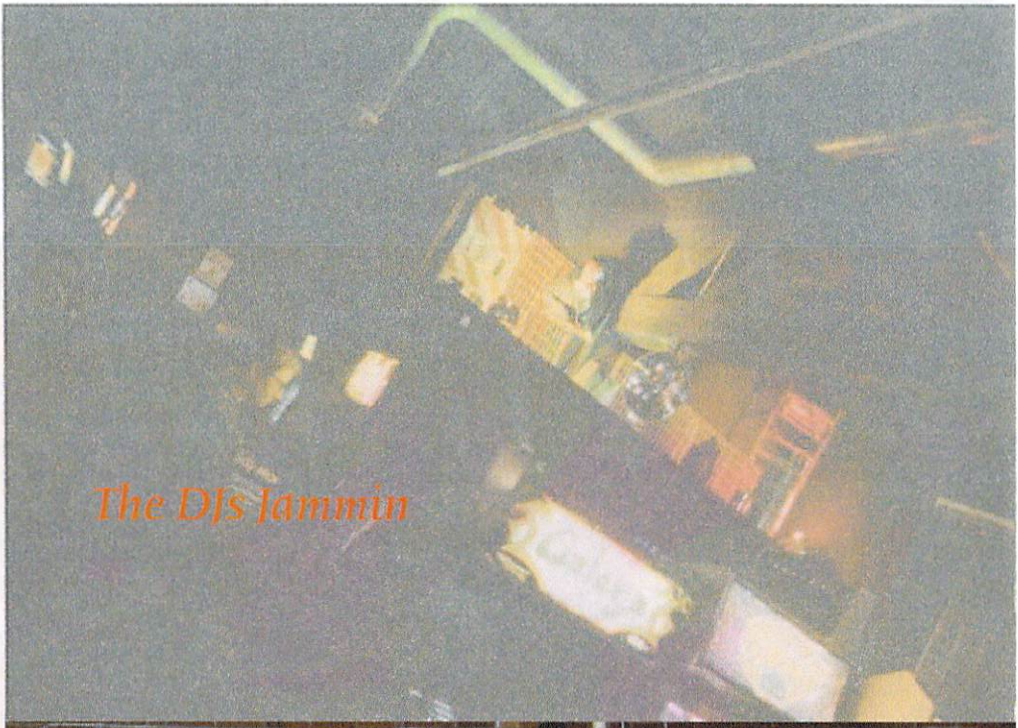


Seth Sternberger jamming on the Commodores

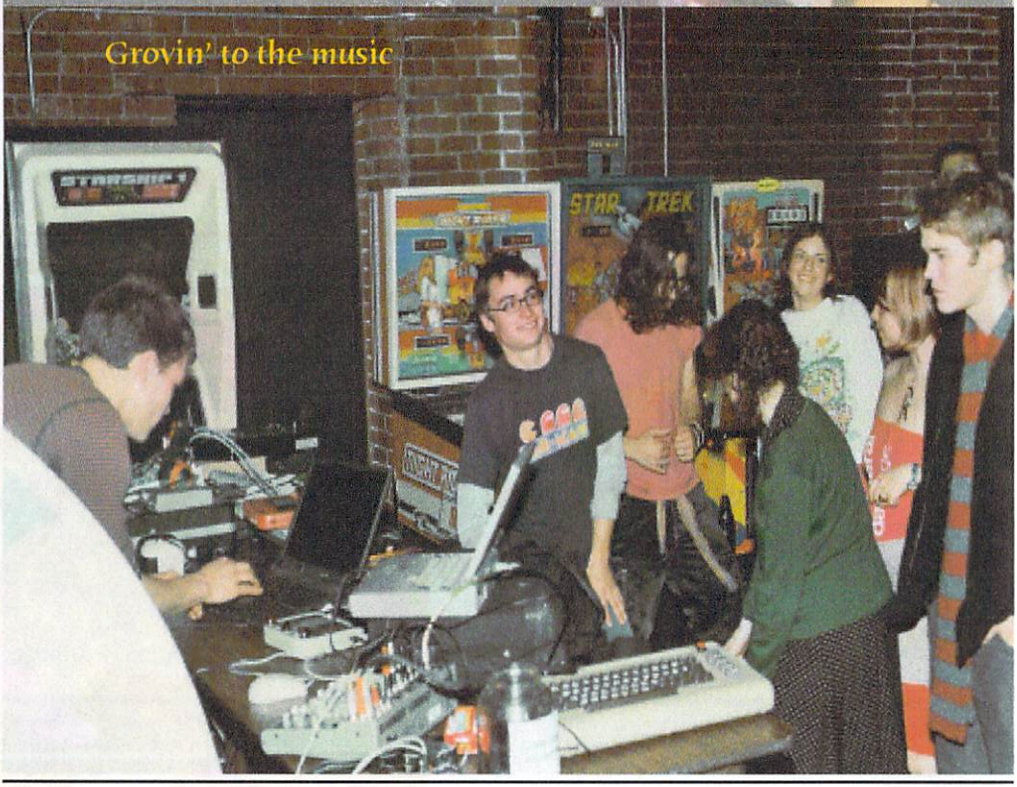
Check out the website for details and real music from these artist

gotoXY readies his machines



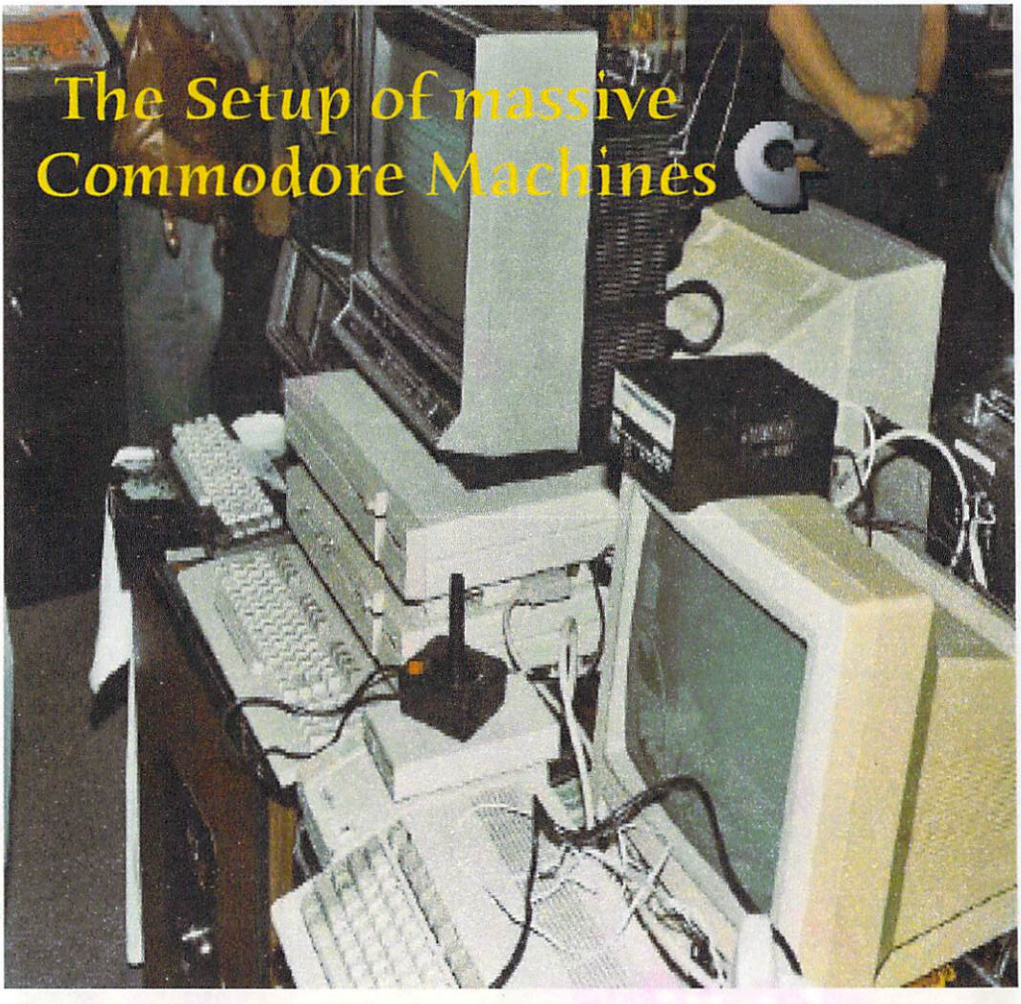


The DJs Jammin



Grovin' to the music

The Setup of massive Commodore Machines



free COLOR! printers
XEROX
Our risk-free program gives you the power of a FREE Xerox Phaser printer to print newsletters, brochures, marketing materials and other documents in dazzling color!
www.freecolorprinters.com/

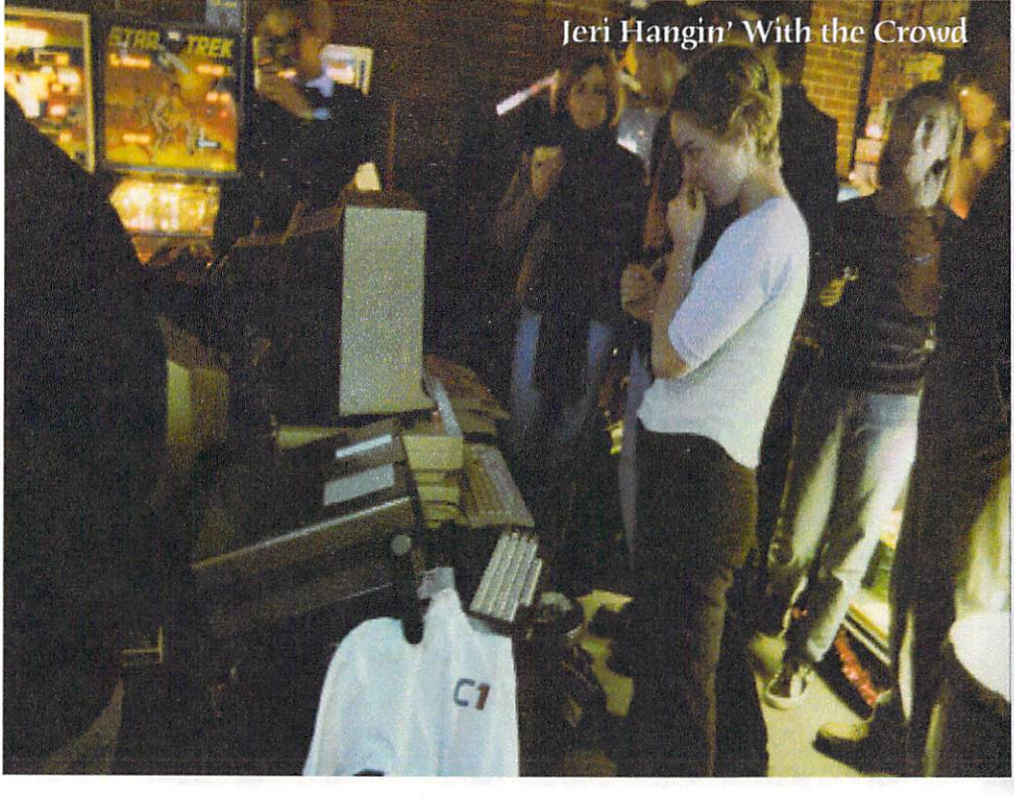
COMMODORE MAILINK
THE NEWSLETTER OF MEETING 64/128 USERS THROUGH THE MAIL

Homestead


Comm



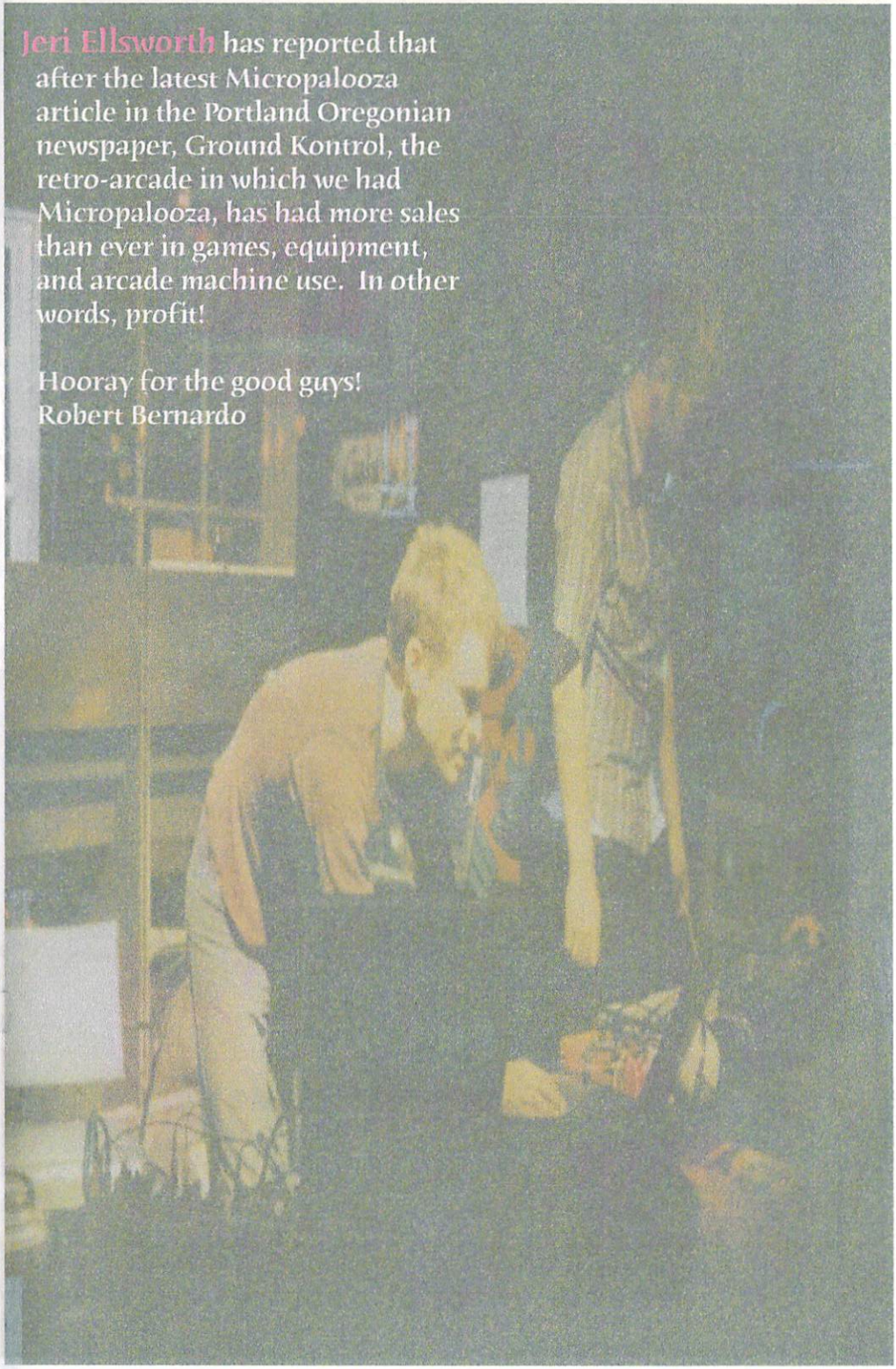


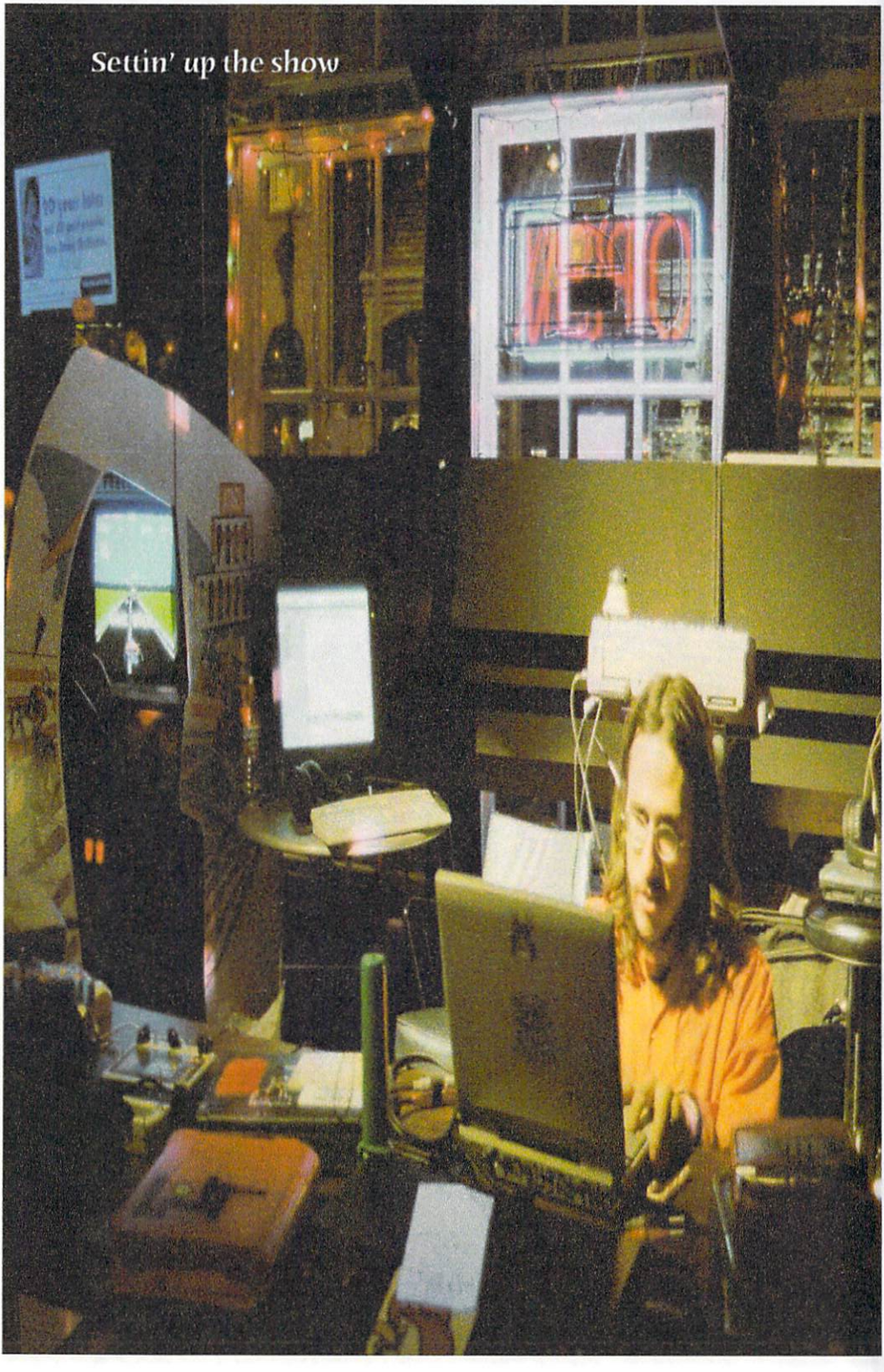


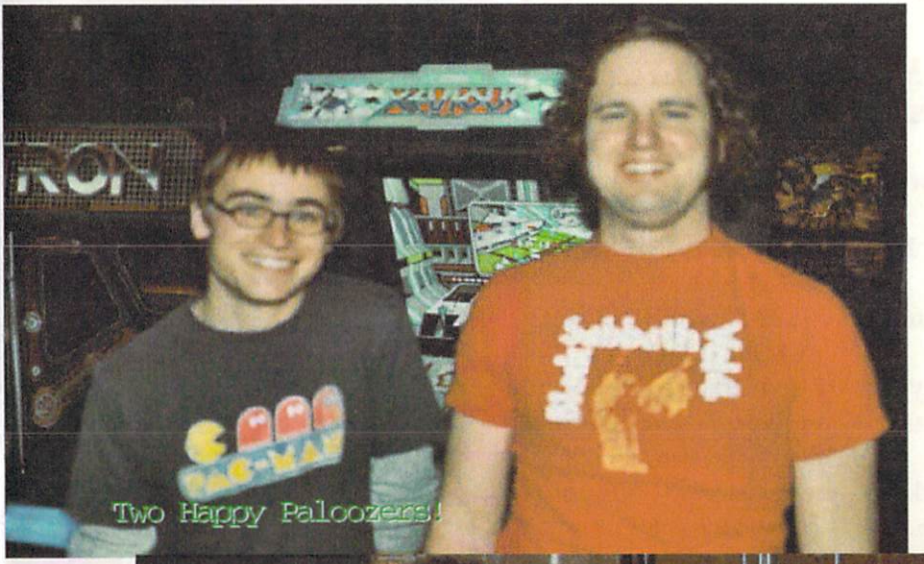
Jeri Hangin' With the Crowd

Jeri Ellsworth has reported that after the latest Micropalooza article in the Portland Oregonian newspaper, Ground Kontrol, the retro-arcade in which we had Micropalooza, has had more sales than ever in games, equipment, and arcade machine use. In other words, profit!

Hooray for the good guys!
Robert Bernardo




Settin' up the show



Two Happy Paloozers!



Trey Stevens and
Jedi Ellsworth



View from above

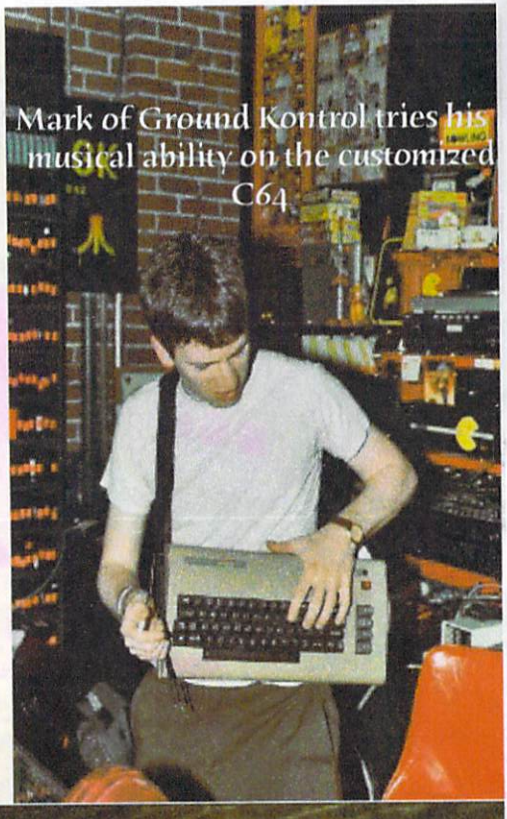


The Vintage Computer Festival Europa 5.0 has been announced.

Where? Mehrzweckhalle des ESV Munchen Ost
Baumkirchner Strasse 57
81673 Munich

When? May 1, 2004 from 10:00 to 18:30
May 2, 2004 from 10:15 to 17:00

Admission -- one person -- one day -- at the door -- 5 Euros
both days -- pre-registered -- 5 Euros
both days -- at the door -- 8 Euros
family -- one day -- pre-registered -- 8 Euros
one day -- at the door -- 10 Euros
both days -- pre-registered -- 10 Euros
both days -- at the door -- 15 Euros



Mark of Ground Kontrol tries his musical ability on the customized C64

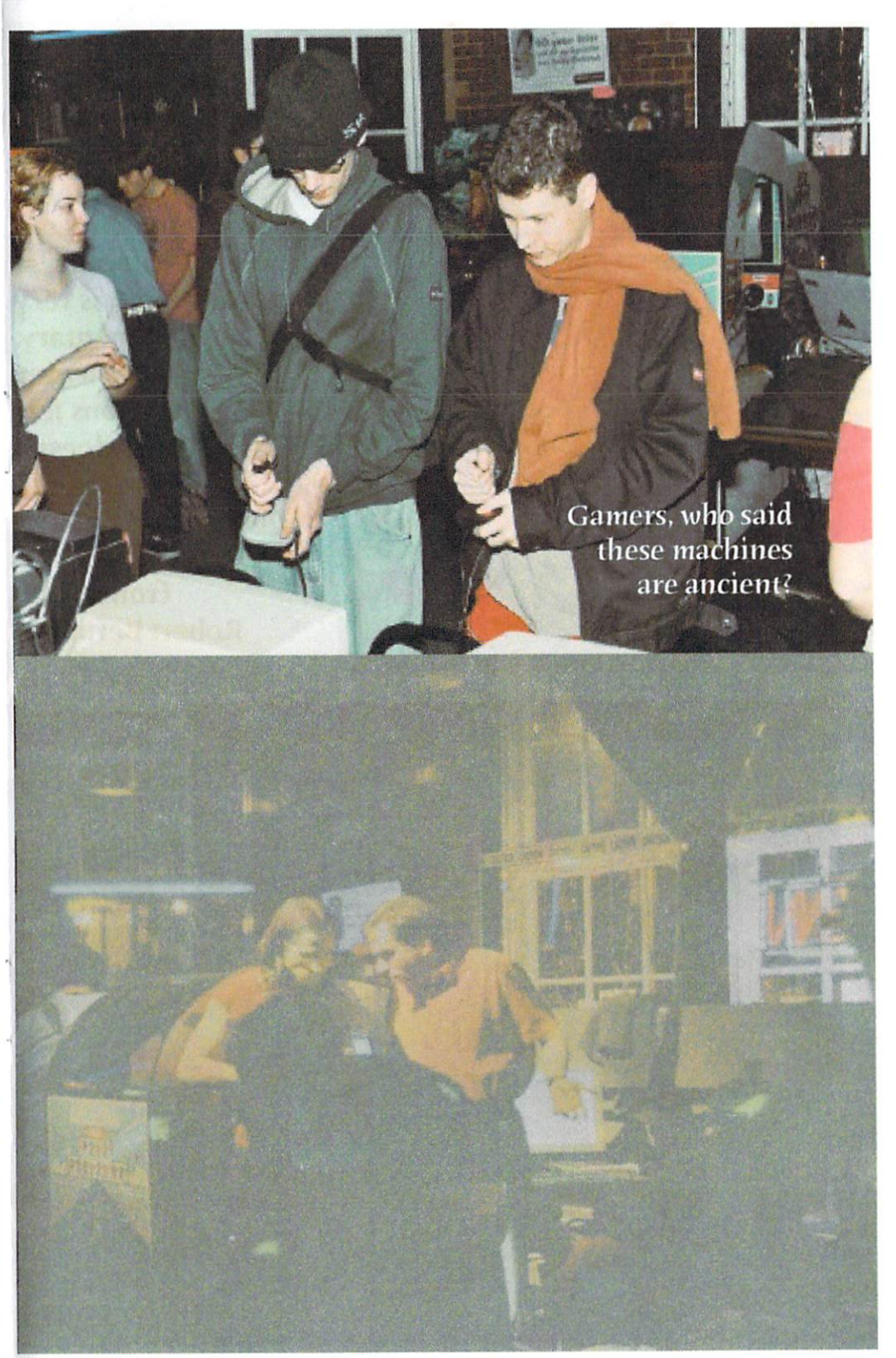
Hello, C= friends,

Hurrah! Photos from the December 30 Portland, Oregon Micropalooza C= Party have been posted to... http://www.earlydesigns.com/InfiniteLoop/comminfo.html

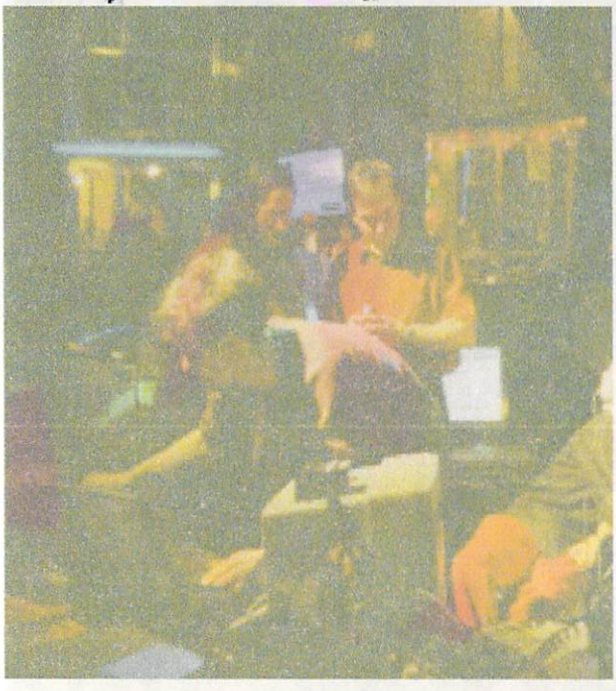
See such C= luminaries as Dave Moorman, Lawrence Hiler, Seth Sternberger, and Jeri Ellsworth. Vicariously participate in the party while as you view photos of the bands -- Waxin' Wary, gotoXY, and 8-Bit Weapon -- and the crowd grooving to the music.

My favorite photo -- Jeri Ellsworth being presented the C1 t-shirt autographed by William Shatner (Captain Kirk of Star Trek)! (Anthony Ramos of Ground Kontrol has a page he made for the event, which includes music for free listening: http://www.groundkontrol.com/events/micropalooza/

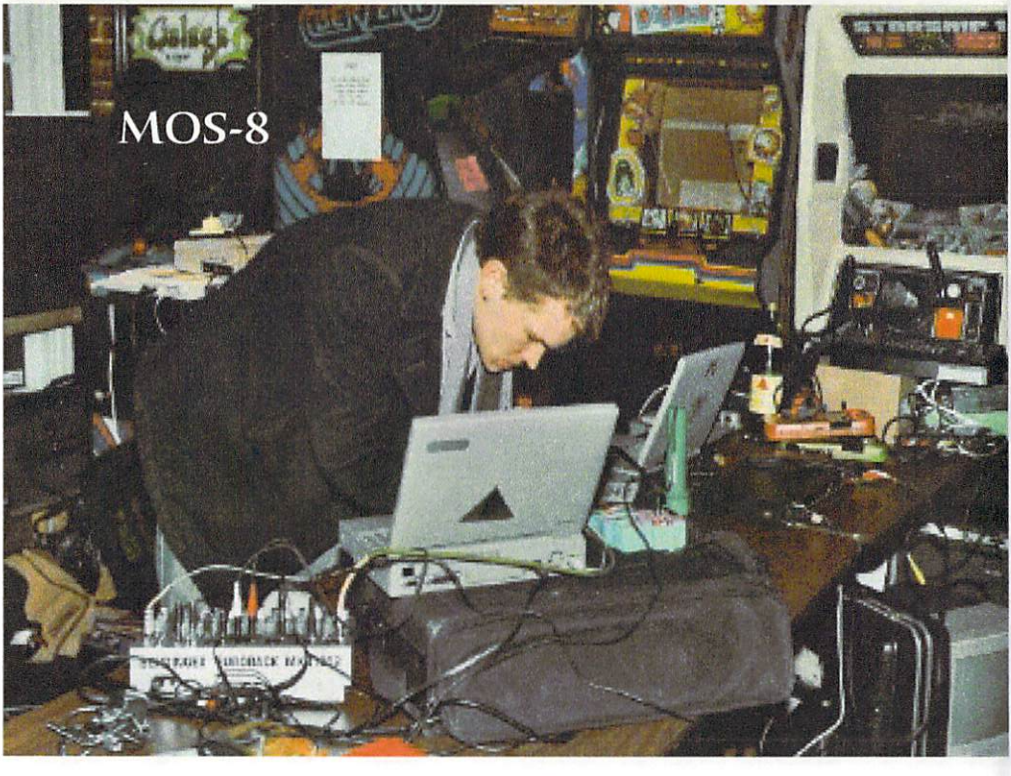
Truly,
Robert Bernardo
Fresno Commodore User Group
http://videocam.net.au/fcug


Gamers, who said
these machines
are ancient?

The Oregonian



O.K., the Portland Oregonian newspaper beat me to the punch in writing up a story on the December 30, Portland, Oregon, Micro-Palooza C= Party. The story is very complimentary. Though the writer mentions Jeri Ellsworth, he doesn't mention the CommodoreOnes/C-Ones sitting at the front table.
Robert Bernardo





The home made cable I soldered worked just great but not pretty! I purchased a cable from 8-Bits and was pleasantly surprised at the quality, documentation, fast shipping and price. I highly recommend that you purchase these cables and accessories and save yourself the headache and time spent on making them yourselves. Help support them too.

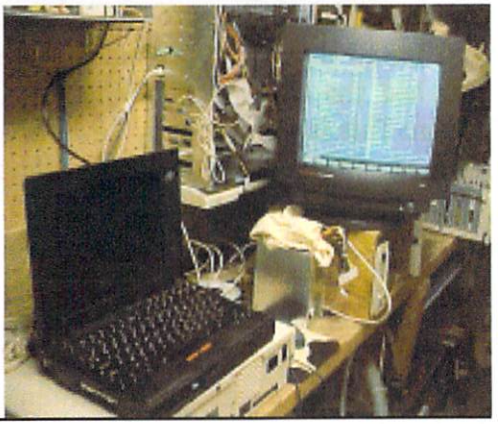
I had good luck accessing a 1571 drive from my IBM Thinkpad using Star Commander. I copied a couple of files and formatted a disk with little problems. My luck was not so good actually using the 64HDD program.

First of all, I was a little confused about what actual programs where to be run from the Commodore. I am using my customized SX-64 with a 1Gig hard drive built in and a SCPU plugged in by the way.

From the Commodore side the program ran fine but hung when trying to get a directory from the laptop. So I have concluded that the thinkPad has some hardware conflicts that need to be addressed. As is usual, PCs are always having some kind of problem. That's the case with another of my PCs that I think will work great with the 64HDD program. It is a Pentium 233Mhz. Because I have been building and repairing three PC computers recently, I need to get the BIOS and Hard drives back in working order etc. before I can attempt a hookup with the SX. I'll need to move the computers closer together as the cable is not very long. Another consideration when you buy a cable; make sure it's the right length for your setup.

I will say right now that this program is easier than it first looks but is pretty intensive. In other words, the learning curve is gradual. By the time you get a proper setup and a chance to actually attempt communication between the PC and the Commodore, you can easily spend two days goofing with it. So whats new right? The documentation that comes with the professional setup that I purchased has lots of great ideas for hardware setups and hobby projects for the serious tinkerer.

I will finish this article in the next issue (December) and have lots of photos and screen shots.





At 03:37 07.02.2004 +0000, you wrote:

Wasn't he C1 supposed to be released a year ago? I thought I read they were coming out of the assembly line in Spring 2003. Anyone have any real information on this?

OK, here's first hand information:

Jeri and I have been supervising the production in spring 2003. I took a lot of pictures that are still online - check the pictures on the official C-One website www.c64upgra.de/c-one

I *just read that Jeri is moving on and abandoning this project.*

The C-One is not abandoned, it's being worked on every day. The C-One started off as a beefed up C64, but it turned into a re-configurable computer, a completely new concept of computers that has never been made before. It was fairly arrogant of Jeri and me to think that we could have finished the thing in a few months. Again: This is a completely new principle of computers! Although it might look like an average ATX motherboard, you can start it without a processor, and change the behavior of the hardware on the fly. If you want to do this on a PC, you'd have to exchange PCI cards while the machine is running - impossible!

The boards are sitting here, waiting to be sold. I'm holding them back until we have a real product to sell: Board, software, manual, working cores. *I* am the one who is not comfortable with selling a half-finished

***I* am the one who is not comfortable with selling a half-finished product,...**

product, so please don't blame Jeri for "abandoning" when she hasn't.
You're free to cross-post this message to the forums that had the "mis-understandable" issues.

ciao,
Jens Schönfeld

BIG NEWS!!

Coming soon... GEOS 64 and GEOS 128 will be available for free downloading from "cmdrkey.com". And it will be V2.0! Keep an eye on the cmdrkey.com web site for further information. There will also be price cuts on most of the software available through Click Here Software.

** Maurice Randall - Click Here Software Co.
** High-Performance for your Commodore
** email: maurice@cmdrkey.com, support@cmdrkey.com
** web: http://cmdrkey.com

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